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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/894,730	06/28/2001	Hisashi Tanaka	14738	9866

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EXAMINER

POND, ROBERT M

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3625

DATE MAILED: 12/15/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/894,730	Applicant(s) TANAKA ET AL.	
	Examiner Robert M. Pond	Art Unit 3625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 September 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 10 September 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

The Applicant amended Claims 1-8. All pending claims (1-8) were examined in this final Office Action.

Response to Arguments

Rejection under 35 USC 101 (Claim 7 and 8)

Applicant's amendment and arguments based on the amendment, see Remarks, filed 10 September 2004, with respect to Claims 7 and 8 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection under 35 USC 101 of Claims 7 and 8 has been withdrawn.

Rejection under 35 USC 102

Applicant's arguments filed 10 September 2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. As noted in the office action, Weber discloses merchants connecting to a settling system on a second network (separate from the first network) via a payment gateway, the payment gateway serving as the access interface to the settling system. Weber teaches the merchant connected to the settling systems using dedicated phone line or leased lines.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

1. Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Weber (Paper #2, patent number 5,889,863).

Weber teaches all the limitations of Claims 1-8. For example, Weber discloses an architecture and method that provides a server that communicates bi-directionally with a client over a first communication link, over which service requests flow to the sever for one or more merchants or consumers, whereby service requests result in merchant transactions being transmitted to a gateway for further processing on existing host applications (please see at least abstract; col. 2, lines 26-44). Weber further discloses:

- Credit information database: databases; merchant server communicates with payment gateway to check customer credit limit. Please note: inherent in the system of Weber is a credit database (see at least col. 2, lines 26-44; col. 14, line 54 through col. 15, line 6).
- Settling system connected to a second network inaccessible from unspecified third-parties: customer computer system in communication with merchant server, both connected over a first network; merchant

server connected to a payment gateway for credit and settlement (see at least Fig. 1B; Fig. 2 (120; 130); Fig. 3 (130, 140); col. 12, lines 58- 67; col. 13, lines 7-23; col. 15, lines 7-56).

- Article database: customer access online catalogs for goods or services (see at least col. 14, lines 54-56; col. 135, lines 4-12).
- Seller server connected to first network: merchant server connected to first network (see at least Fig. 1B; col. 12, lines 58- 67).
- Dedicated line: private, secure, dedicated phone or leased line service between a merchant and bank (see at least col. 4, lines 4-8).
- Programs: object oriented programming to perform software functionality; software framework (see at least col. 7, line 3 through col. 12, line 57).

Pertaining to program Claims 7 and 8

Rejection of Claims 7 and 8 is based on the same rationale as noted above.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Mr. Robert M. Pond** whose telephone number is 703-605-4253. The examiner can normally be reached Monday-Friday, 8:30AM-5:30PM Eastern.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Ms. Wynn Coggins** can be reached on 703-308-1344.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the **Receptionist** whose telephone number is **703-308-1113**.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington D.C. 20231


or faxed to:

703-872-9306 (Official communications; including After Final
communications labeled "Box AF")

Hand delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park 5, 2451 Crystal
Drive, Arlington, VA, 7th floor receptionist.



Robert M. Pond
Patent Examiner
December 11, 2004



WYATT W. COGGINS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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